



C H A P. III.

*Joseph sold by his Brethren into Egypt, and their
false Representations to his Father, &c.*

JACOB, possessing large flocks and herds, to the care and improvement of which he had trained up his sons, was obliged at times to send them to feed at considerable distances from his

his own habitation. It chanced on a time that these flocks were under the care of his ten sons at Shechem, a place of rich pasture, but some miles from home. Probably therefore they might be absent from their father for several days. The good old man, whatever partiality he might shew to Joseph, was much concerned for the welfare of all his children. So after they had been some time away, he sent Joseph to enquire after their welfare, and to see the state of the flocks, and bring him word. Joseph went, and pursued his journey through many a fertile vale, and over delightful hills; the Sun, which had just appeared in the East, when he set out from home, had gained the meridian, and scorched the earth with its noontide beams; yea, it declined towards the West, and almost threatened to leave the world to darkness, before he had accomplished his design. But a man having met him wandering, directed him to Dothan, where his brethren had just removed